

# WORKING FOR THE PUBLIC HEALTH

New Department Is Showing  
Much Activity in Preventing  
Disease.

## BOARD TO MEET WEDNESDAY

Dr. Williams Completes His First Annual Report to the Governor.

For the purpose of considering matters relating to the State Tuberculosis Sanatorium and the transaction of other business concerning the department, the first meeting of the Board of Health will meet in the rooms of the health department, No. 1119 Capitol Street, on Wednesday, April 26, 1917.

The officers of the department and members of the board for the various districts are as follows:

Health Commissioner—Ennion G. Williams, M. D.

Commissioner—Allen W. Freeman, M. D.

Bacteriologist—Adele Ferguson, Ph. D.

Clerk—William B. Watkins.

Board of Health—President, R. W. Martin, M. D.

First District—Charles R. Grandy, M. D.

Second District—S. W. Hobson, M. D.

Third District—M. D. Newport, M. D.

Fourth District—Charles R. Grandy, M. D.

Fifth District—Thos. R. Grandy, M. D.

Sixth District—J. B. Clark, M. D.

Seventh District—C. C. Wright, M. D.

Eighth District—J. A. Watkins, M. D.

Ninth District—O. C. Wright, M. D.

Ville; Sixth Congressional District, R. W. Martin, M. D., Lynchburg; Seventh Congressional District, S. P. Latane, M. D., Winchester; Eighth Congressional District, W. M. Smith, M. D., Alexandria; Ninth Congressional District, J. H. Hunkley, M. D., Staunton; Tenth Congressional District, Reid White, M. D., Lexington; city of Richmond, Geo. Ben Johnston, M. D., Stuart McGuire, M. D.

**For the Public Health.**

Further than the brief outline given

above, the exact nature of the business to come before the board is not known. It is, however, a matter of importance to protecting the public health of the State.

The department has made much progress since its recent organization, and its benefits to the people are already apparent.

Dr. John G. Williams, the Health Commissioner, has submitted the manuscript of the first annual report of his department, and it is expected that the matter has been transmitted by the Governor to the Public Printer. It will be out in pamphlet form within a short time, and will then be distributed to the public.

The December bulletin of the department has been printed by the State printer, and it is an interesting document, especially to the medical profession.

It is devoted entirely to the subjects of scarlet fever, diphtheria and disinfection, and each is treated at length.

On such subjects as these, the public in a brief summing up concerning

“Unless means are taken to combat scarlet fever when it appears in a community, it will spread rapidly and do incalculable damage. The measures necessary to check the disease are troublesome, but they are trifling compared with the trouble to the community and will save much greater trouble and suffering without great expense.”

The absolute isolation of every suspicious case is the first essential to control the disease. The sick person should be placed at once in a room, as far as possible from other persons in the house. The nurse or attendant should be isolated, and with the patient until recovery is complete and the patient is discharged. The nurse should be isolated, and the nurse should come near the patient until the quarantine is raised. Thereafter the quarantine is raised until the skin of the patient ceases to peel or to scale, and until all discharges from the ears, nose, etc. have stopped.

**Control of Diphtheria.**

The bulletin has this to say with

reference to the control of diphtheria: "The control of diphtheria is difficult in the fact that the germs may stay in the throat of the patient long after the symptoms of the disease have disappeared, and while the patient is feeling perfectly well. Usually within a few days after the disease has been gone from the throat the germs also disappear. In some cases, however, the germs may stay in the throat for a long time in the throat of the patient, without doing the patient any harm, but may be passed on to other persons. If any healthy person into whose throat they may come.

"In this fact, so patient should be released from quarantine for diphtheria until a swab has been made from the same swab as for diagnosis, and has been examined by a bacteriologist, and found free from germs of the disease.

"In the case of diphtheria there will be one or two patients in whose throats the germs will hang on, and will be passed on to others during the long quarantine. The continuance

"The State Department of Health will make a more thorough examination for the disappearance of the diphtheria germs free of cost. Special 'containers' for the shipment of swabs for examination will be sent for distribution by the three medical members of the county boards of health in the State."

**WEEK AT CITY HALL**

Flume Investigation. — Dr. Constantine

Tuesday Night.  
 Meetings for the Council and its committees, scheduled for this week, are as follows: Monday, Common Council at 8 o'clock; Light at 7:30 o'clock and Cemetery at 8 o'clock. Tuesday, Finance Investigation at 8 o'clock and the Committee on James River Improvement at the same hour. The day after meeting on the calendar is that of the Grand and Buildings at 3 o'clock Thursday night.  
 The City Attorney has been summoned to the Finance Investigation for the purpose of assisting and assisting in the cross-examination of witnesses.  
 For Italian Sufferers.  
 The Times-Dispatch has received the following for the Italian earthquake sufferers:  
 S. J. ... \$ 2.00  
 S. J. ... 1.00  
 Mrs. G. A. Peple ... 1.00  
 G. A. Peple ... 1.00  
 Cash ... 3.50  
 A. Friend ... 10.00

Total 225.00

**Baptist Council to Meet.**

There will be a meeting of the Baptist Council of Richmond and Manchester on Monday evening, January 14th at Grace Street Baptist Church. This is the regular meeting of the council, and the business of the evening year is decided and other important business transacted. A large attendance is expected.

**Captain Jennings Here.**

Captain Tipton D. Jennings, for many years and at present the member of the House of Delegation from Leavenworth, Kansas, is here. Captain Jennings has a deep interest in Confederate matters, and is past commander of Garland-Roddey Camp, No. 121, as well as the principal representative of the Grand Camp, C. V. of Virginia.